

Meeting minutes of the NBA Board of Directors special meeting on Monday, June 27, 2022 at 5 pm MT

Present: Jim Matheson, Donnis Baggett, Tim Frasier, Ed Mountain, Moritz Espy, Mary Adams, Mimi Hillenbrand, Carie Starr, Jeremy Alemann, Karen Conley, Chad Kremer, Robert Johnson, Ken Klemm, Kevin Leier, Boyd Meyer.

Donnis called the meeting to order and Chad made the motion to forgo the ten day advance notice to hold a special board meeting, Mimi seconded.

**Texas Bison Association (TBA) request for NBA support** – Donnis provided an overview of the MCF disease in bison, which the Texas Bison Association is currently lobbying the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) to include on their list of reportable diseases, arguing the sheep are the vectors of MCF which is potentially lethal to bison. This would result in the vector, in confirmed cases, to be included in the public record. As such, the TBA would like the NBA to support this effort.

Tim next provided an overview of his employer's situation in Texas. Essentially, the feedlot he manages has a new neighbor coming in with sheep. Tim tried to work with the neighbor to find a solution to no avail. Donnis went on to explain that as a result of this, the TBA has petitioned TACH accordingly and also asked that a "bison commissioner" be added to the livestock commission as part of their petition. TBA president, Ed Mountain, added that they would like the NBA's support in this petition via a letter of support to TAHC. Robert discussed his long-running experience with MCF in Canada, and offered his assistance to the TBA as needed. Discussion was held. Boyd mentioned that he operates close to the biggest sheep county in the country and shared his experience dealing with sheep producers regarding MCF and the age of sheep acting as vectors. Chad commented that as we educate the public about this issue, we need to possibly include graphic photos that show how bad the animal suffers from this disease. Robert mentioned the potential for MCF death losses to be included in potential USDA LIP relief moving forward. Campbell mentioned that the NBA's support in this effort would go a long way in supporting Tim's work in lobbying Texas regulators. Robert made a motion that the NBA send a letter of support to the TAHC to support the TBA's petition, Ken seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

**Vice President Vacancy** – Chad next discussed the vacant seat left by Joe Graham's resignation. Chad visited with various board members on the topic and approached Ken Klemm as a potential replacement for the VP left vacant by Joe's departure. Chad also proposed that Stuart Schrag replace Ken's Region IV seat, which Stuart has potentially agreed to do. The bylaws state that an appointment for a director needs a majority vote from the board of directors. A motion to appoint Ken Klemm to the vice presidency and have his board seat replaced by Stuart Schrag was made by Campbell, seconded by Carie. The vote passed unanimously.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Mary to end the meeting, Carie seconded.

Recorded by Jim Matheson, executive director - National Bison Association.